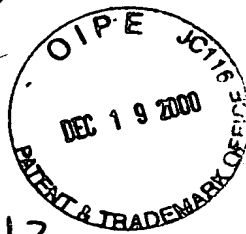


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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Patrick COHEN et al.
Title: AUTOMATIC DEVICE FOR
PRODUCING SAMPLES FOR USE
IN CHEMICAL OR BIOLOGICAL
REACTIONS IN LIQUID MEDIUM
Appl. No.: 09/646,668
Filing Date: 9/20/2000
Examiner: ~~Unassigned~~ *Bex*
Art Unit: ~~1744~~ *1743*



INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Submitted herewith on Form PTO-1449 is a listing of documents known to Applicants in order to comply with Applicants' duty of disclosure pursuant to 37 CFR 1.56. A copy of each listed document is being submitted to comply with the provisions of 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98.

The submission of any document herewith, which is not a statutory bar, is not intended as an admission that such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application or that such document is considered material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR §1.56(b). Applicants do not waive any rights to take any action which would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove as a competent reference any document which is determined to be a prima facie prior art reference against the claims of the present application.

CONCISE EXPLANATION OF
RELEVANCE OF EACH DOCUMENT

The foregoing documents came to Applicants' attention during a search of the corresponding international application. A copy of the international search report setting forth the portion of each reference considered relevant by the examiner is attached.

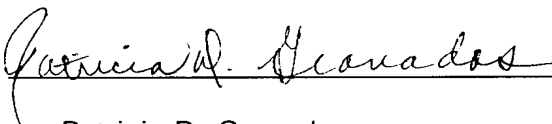
The listed documents are being submitted in compliance with 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b), within three months of the filing date.

Applicants respectfully request that the listed documents be considered by the Examiner and formally be made of record in the present application and that an initialled copy of Form PTO-1449 be returned in accordance with MPEP §609.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: December 19, 2000

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